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President Obama delivers his final State of the Union

In a sweeping rhetorical indictment of anti-science philosophy, like climate change denial, President Barack Obama avoided a litany of policy proposals in favor of big ideas at his final State of the Union speech.



Alabama chief justice: No gay marriage in my state

Judges who follow his order risk being held in contempt of court for violating the federal ruling.



Texas 'affluenza' teen taken into custody in Mexico

Ethan Couch became known as the 'affluenza' teen during his trial in juvenile court, when a psychologist said he was so wealthy and spoiled he could not tell the difference between right and wrong.



North Korea claims first successful H-bomb test

The news set off alarm bells in Japan and South Korea.



'Trumponomics' could cause a recession: Economists

A new report from Politico has experts explaining the Donald's fiscal plan.



Legendary rock musician David Bowie dies at age 69

A light has gone out in the world.



Militiamen occupy wildlife refuge as dispute flares

The armed occupation is part of a decades-old conflict between ranchers and the federal government.



Wrong contestant crowned Miss Universe by host

'Yes, this is real. Yes, it is so very hard to watch.'



Seized documents reveal the ISIS 'Department of War Spoils'

ISIS has set up departments to handle 'war spoils,' including slaves and natural resources such as oil. The documents outlining these departments call for both kindness and cruelty.

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Experimental flavors and craft beers top trends for 2016, says beer app founder. 4



CUBE AND HART BACK IN ACTION

The odd couple bicker again in 'Ride Along 2.' 9

Bolaris: Hurricane in January adds to already wacky winter. 6



GIANT SMILES

Keeping Eli Manning, Odell Beckham Jr. and the Giants offense happy played a big role in the team promoting Ben McAdoo to head coach. 12

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'NAVIGATIONAL ERROR'

1 The Pentagon said the 10 U.S. sailors who were held by Iran before being released had made a navigational mistake that led them into Iranian waters. "The information that they have given us, and through their commanders is that they did stray accidentally into Iranian waters due to a navigation error," U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said in an interview with Univision in Miami. **REUTERS**

**US JOBLESS CLAIMS RISE**

2 The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits unexpectedly rose last week, but remained at levels associated with a healthy labor market. Other data on Thursday showed import prices tumbled in December for a sixth straight month, weighed down by lower oil prices and a strong dollar. The data pointed to tame consumer prices that could keep inflation this year below the Federal Reserve's 2 percent target. **REUTERS**

UNLAWFUL FEATURE

3 Germany's highest court has declared unlawful a feature that encourages Facebook users to market the social media network to their contacts, confirming the rulings of two lower courts. A panel of the Federal Court of Justice ruled that Facebook's "friend finder" promotional feature constituted advertising harassment. **REUTERS**

**AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY'S NEW DINOSAUR**

7 The 122-foot-long dinosaur cast is too large to fit into the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Orientation Center — part of its 39-foot-long neck extends out toward the elevator banks, welcoming visitors to the fossil halls.

**7
THINGS YOU
NEED TO KNOW**

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RAPE SUSPECTS RELEASED

4 The five suspects have been ordered released by the Brooklyn DA as the investigation continues. The father of a girl cops said was gang-raped on a Brooklyn playground has lashed out, vociferously denying disturbing allegations made by the suspects that involve incest. **JOSH KRUGER**



NYPD

SUBWAY DANCE, PUNCH

5 A subway dancer allegedly punched a passenger for paying attention to his phone instead of the performance. The passenger, 39, was looking at his phone on a northbound A train last Monday when a performer grabbed the phone, resulting in a struggle in which the man was punched, police said to DNA Info. The victim left the incident with a cut and swelling on his face, police told DNA Info. After punching the victim, the performer allegedly fled the scene with three others, leaving the police little information. **JASON NUCKOLLS**

DOCTOR MASTURBATES

6 A Mount Sinai doctor has been questioned by authorities based on allegations that he incapacitated a 22-year-old woman with morphine then ejaculated on her face. Dr. David Newman has not been taken into custody, but he has been barred from seeing patients as police investigate the woman's claim. **JASON NUCKOLLS**



WIKIMEDIA



Much has changed since 1916.
But the passion of the people serving
New York has remained the same.





Beer is bottled. To the right is the Untappd app. GETTY IMAGES; PROVIDED



Year of beer: App founders say 2016 will harbor crafts, new flavors

According to co-founder of beer app Untappd, 2016 will favor craft beer.



ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

Being small is not always a disadvantage — especially when your taste has people looking for more.

In just the last couple of years, the country has seen an increase in craft breweries, with brewers looking to add a new twist to the beer industry.

As of June of last year, 3,739 craft breweries were operating in the United States, an increase of 699 from the previous year, according to a report by the Brewers Association, the nonprofit trade association dedicated to small and independent American craft brewers.

According to Greg Avola, co-founder of the social app Untappd — which allows users to share beers, beer-drinking establishments and beer feedback — this increase will only continue.

Since launching Untappd together with partner Tim Mather, Avola said the app has garnered a total of 3 million users and through user interaction has been able to notice trends in the industry.

“Every part of the country has a unique twist to making beers,” Avola said. “That flexibility will allow other craft breweries to say they want to start even if there are already a lot of them out there.”

The New York City resident added that what makes craft beers attractive is the unique flavors each brewery offers and the “exclusivity” given to their consumers.

“People want more flavors, they want to have more experience,” Avola said. “It’s the whole no-

tion of individuality.”

For 2016, the beer industry will take on an evolutionary phase, according to Avola. There will be more of an exploration of different styles such as root beers, sour beers, beers aged in wine barrels or bourbon barrels, and overall brewers using knowledge from years ago.

And although he added that the bigger brands could definitely do such experimentation, the craft breweries will be the ones to most likely push the boundaries of the traditional style.

The reason being that for larger brands, it would take more time while craft brewers could try small batches.

“Smaller breweries are trying to be innovative,” Avola said. “That vision and freedom allows them to be more experimental.”

For New York, which is the second highest market area for Untappd, 2016 will see a continuation of the trend of visiting local breweries, flocking to get special-edition beers, bar hopping and attending beer festivals.

Another big trend in the Big Apple include “tap takeovers” where breweries partner up with local bars and feature their line of beers on the tap for a particular day.

“It turns out that people really like these experiences,” Avola said.

And even though, based on data from Untappd, the market shows to be going toward the craft breweries for the New Year Avola said their app caters to lovers of all beers — big brands or small.

“We help people discover what their next beer is, not matter what it is,” Avola said. “We just like to help create a good experience.”

Visit Untappd.com to learn more.

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BRIEFS

Private ceremony planned for David Bowie, family says

David Bowie will be remembered in a private ceremony, his family said Thursday, thanking fans for their support after the British rock star's death from cancer Sunday but repeating requests for privacy.

The statement on Bowie's official Facebook page followed British media reports that the 69-year-old "Space Oddity" singer was cremated quietly in New York without his friends or family in attendance. Reuters could not confirm the reports and Bowie's representatives did not return requests for comment.

"The family of David Bowie is currently making arrangements for a private ceremony celebrating the memory of their beloved husband, father and friend," the family's statement said. It was dated from England but gave no details about where or when the ceremony might take place.

"They ask once again that their privacy be respected at this most sensitive of times. We are overwhelmed by and grateful for the love and support shown throughout the world."

REUTERS

And now a hurricane in this wacky winter

Just when you thought it couldn't get even stranger will all the insane record high temperatures throughout the Northeast corridor, paucity of snow, severe thunderstorms, the 60s and 70s on Christmas, we now have a full-fledged hurricane that came alive Thursday.

It's the first hurricane of the 2015 hurricane season, which officially starts June 1 and ends Nov. 30. Yes, I did say JUNE 1!!

Just-named Hurricane Alex is the first January hurricane since Hurricane Alice in 1955, and before that was a hurricane in 1938, before the start of naming hurricanes during WWII.

Interesting side note: The practice of naming hurricanes after women became common during World War II when pilots began naming the many storms across the Pacific after their girlfriends and wives so they could distinctly

Bolaris' Weather Watch



JOHN BOLARIS
@weathersavior

remember the storms' placement.

The National Weather Service decided in 1978 to add male names to the roster, due to strong complaints from the National Organization for Women, among others.

Back to Hurricane Alex: The very latest Hurricane Alex is located 670 miles south of the Azores off the coast of Africa. Winds are at 85 mph, moving northeast at 20 mph. There are hurricane warnings for the Azores, but no perceived threat to the Caribbean or United States.

The extreme weather cycle continues and will continue throughout our lifetimes — the norm is no more.

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E Brooklyn Bridge-bound trains skip Astor Pl, Blocker St, Spring St and Canal St

F Hudson Yards-bound trains skip 111, 103, 90 and 82 Sts

A Inwood-bound trains skip 72, 81, 86, 98, 103, 110 and 116 Sts

D No trains between 59 St-Columbus Circle and Stillwell Av

F Trains run local in both directions between 21 St-Queensbridge and 71 Av

M Service is extended to the Chambers St Station

C 168 St-bound trains skip 72, 81, 86, 98, 103, 110 and 116 Sts

B Trains run via the 2 in both directions between W 4 St and 21 St-Queensbridge

D Trains run via the 2 in both directions between W 4 St and 21 St-Queensbridge

F Trains run local in both directions between 21 St-Queensbridge and 71 Av


M Service is extended to the Chambers St Station

N Trains run via the 2 in both directions between 36 St and Stillwell Av

Q 57-577 Av-bound trains skip Neck Rd and Avenue U

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STATE OF THE UNION SPEECH SHOWED THAT IDENTITY CRISIS OF GOP WILL COST IT

From the State of the Union to the GOP response — it's obvious that Republicans are divided on their current identity.

So, what does a Republican look like in 2016?

Many will say they have conservative views — but is it that easy? The core Republican values have been lost in the narratives of the party's presidential candidates and their new staunch supporters.

Watching the State of the Union, you couldn't help but notice President Obama's subtle jabs at the divisive messaging of right wing candidates.

"We need to reject any politics that targets people because of race or religion," he said. "That's not telling it like it is. It's just wrong. It diminishes us in the eyes of the world ... it betrays who we are as a country."

By now, we all know Obama is primarily addressing party front-runner Donald Trump. Trump has made himself the controversial contrarian to almost anything progressive in Congress, and such infamy has earned him a following that's brought him up in the polls.

There has not been too much Republican backlash on Trump's toxic on immigration proposals and religious outside the debates. I assumed the GOP was basking in the tragic resurgence of a billion-

ERNEST OWENS

The Ernest Opinion

Award-winning multimedia journalist Ernest Owens is a keen observer of social, LGBT and race issues in Philadelphia. Follow him @MrErnestOwens



"That's not true," she said.

We can infer the "loudest" and "angriest" voice she's talking about is Trump's. His voice now masquerades as the voice of the GOP, thanks in part to the internal rifts in the party.

Tea Party-ers who have splintered from the Republican core have run under the party's umbrella; Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, a Tea Party candidate who's seeking the Republican nomination, benefited from division and is gaining ground in the polls.

The party's fractured identity created an ideal breeding ground for radically social conservatives who don't see the GOP as the party of Ronald Reagan.

Donald Trump emerged as a serious candidate because his party's central beliefs got muddled in an effort to win dominance in Congress. Without the Tea Party, the GOP wouldn't have been able to secure its majority in Congress.

Now, it's all come back to bite them in the ass. Candidate Trump appears to have been disowned by both parties in a mutual, if silent, agreement.

But it's too late for the GOP. Because as much as it tries to clean up after him, Trump is still the front-runner — and the party's alternatives aren't that promising at all.

aire who might be the party's only hope to win the White House.

But clearly, I was wrong. It's clear the GOP establishment hates him, but still has to put up with him.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who at last bowed to public pressure to remove the Confederate flag from the statehouse in 2015, gave the Republican response to the SOTU. Instead of attacking the president's remarks, Haley spent the bulk of her time clarifying the GOP's core beliefs.

"Some people think that you have to be the loudest voice in the room to make a difference," Haley said, encouraging Americans not to follow the "siren call of the angriest voices."



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Ice Cube makes fun of Kevin Hart in "Ride Along 2." QUANTRELL D. COLBERT

Ice Cube gives you *what you want*

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THE FUN STARTS HERE

The rapper-actor reunites with Kevin Hart for "Ride Along 2" while prepping for Coachella.



MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

Ice Cube won't storm the stage of Coachella until April, but he already has a game plan. "I'm looking forward to getting out there and giving them a history lesson about Ice Cube, from N.W.A. to the present," says the 46-year-old rapper-actor-filmmaker. "I'm going to put together a show that touches on everything." The other thing on his desert agenda: "I really want to see Guns N' Roses," he says.

But right now, he has other business to attend to. He reunites with Kevin Hart for "Ride Along 2," the sequel to the 2013 hit.



GETTY IMAGES

Are you a big Guns N' Roses fan?

I've loved a lot of their tracks. Far as "big fan," I don't know. I was so involved with my music [back then]. I didn't really want to be a fan of nobody at that time, know what I mean? [Laughs]

Do you have much time for music these days?

I haven't had a lot of time lately. Working on "Straight Outta Compton" took a lot of time and effort. I had movies booked together, so it was just movie to movie to movie. But I am going to go into the studio with Common and do a song for the "Barbershop 3" soundtrack.

Speaking of sequels, you've spoken about how you always want to make sure a sequel is fresh if you do it. What was it that convinced you to do a second "Ride Along"?

People just want to see

us again. A lot of these buddy cop movies are hit and miss. When you hit, you really owe it to the audience to give them something new and fresh with the same team. To me, it's really what you're in show business for: to give the audience what they want, not necessarily what you want to give them all the time.

You started your film career in dramas. Do you want to return to them, given the success of "Compton"?

I would love to. Ever since I got into movies, I've wanted to do good ones. I don't really trip over what genre they are. Comedies snowballed in my career, so I ended up doing more of those. But of course I have dramatic stories I want to tell, dramatic characters I want to play.

I remember "Lottery Ticket," where you played an antisocial character who was unlike anyone you'd played before. Do you see yourself stretching

yourself more?

If it's right. I've been in the game 25 years, and I'm still working on my acting chops. It's about making sure that it's something I could do, but not just because I can. People would probably give you money to do a chicken dinner and jump on the table, know what I'm saying? [Laughs] If someone says, "You'd be a great Ku Klux Klan leader," it's probably a little bit of a f—ing stretch. [Laughs]

Do you see yourself doing another "Friday"?

It's a dream of mine to get it done, but we'd have to do it right. I'm going to keep at it because the fans want it. But who knows if it's ever going to happen.

A word from Kevin Hart

Kevin Hart has made a business out of making fun of Kevin Hart. Other people do it, such as Ice Cube and every other actor in the new "Ride Along 2." And Hart has done it as well in his stand-up act. But Hart tells us that's a sign of strength, not weakness.

"You use self-deprecation when you're not afraid to talk about certain things that are being said," Hart says. "You're addressing it first. You address things first and then show that you're confident about being able to talk about whatever those things are."

Hart has a good thing going with buddy comedies, which have paired him with Will Ferrell ("Get Hard"), Josh

Gad ("The Wedding Ringer") as well as Cube. But he's in no rush to change things — say, try something more serious.

"That's going to happen, but I'm not in a rush," Hart says. "I'm not trying to conquer it all in one day. There's a road, and it's a long road, and you don't want to force things to happen that aren't supposed to happen yet. It happens when it happens. Right now, I'm enjoying this. I'm enjoying making people laugh at a time when the world needs it. It puts me in the position of doing something positive."



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'13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi'

Director: Michael Bay
Stars: John Krasinski, James Badge Dale
Rating: R

• • • • •

Michael Bay heard about the Battle of Benghazi and thought it would make a great Michael Bay movie. And so it has. "13 Hours" isn't about the four Americans who died; it's about the six awesome, muscular he-men who bagged about 100 scary foreigners. It's "America, f— yeah!" writ large and with as many fiery booms as one of Bay's "Transformers" entries. It's a director with unexamined issues around sexism, racism, xenophobia and gay panic bulldozing into a powder keg situation — not the Benghazi blame game itself, which Bay handles but briefly and passive-aggres-

sively, but how to portray a real-life tragedy without turning it into another explode-y action blockbuster.

Would it be a Bay movie if he didn't fail miserably? Or if he never cared about niceties in the first place? He focuses entirely on six CIA security contractors who improbably, heroically and tirelessly saved the day when Libyan attackers lay siege upon two separate American bases. They're a motley crew engaged in a beard-off so intense it's sometimes difficult to tell which aggro adrenaline junkie is which. One of them (James Badge Dale) scores the Michael Bay-iest line in film history: "Payback's a bitch, and her stripper name is karma."

"13 Hours" peaks early with that line, but there are plenty more offenses to come. The locals are all filmed like zombies: frightening Others shooting and screaming sans subtitles. The only prominent female

character (played by Alexia Barlier) is at one point told — by one of our heroes, no less — to "open your eyes, open your ears and shut your mouth." She's then told to "put on your headscarf," just like all the other oppressed women in the region.

To watch a Michael Bay film is to enter a hyper-macho headspace and a worldview divided into swaggering badasses and the effete wimps who try to hold them back. As the explosions wind down, "13 Hours" aims for nuance, with a brief scene of women wailing over untold dead militants, plus a blink-and-miss shot of a Libyan teen holding up a sign informing us that not all Middle Easterners are bad. But such overtures are too little too late, and insincere besides. The makers of the best war films — John Ford, Samuel Fuller — made war complex, even as they sided with the troops. Bay just wants to get you off. **MATT PRIGGE**

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Kevin Hart reunites with Ice Cube for "Ride Along 2," which brings Ken Jeong into the party. QUANTRELL D. COLBERT

'Ride Along 2'

Director: Tim Story
Stars: Kevin Hart, Ice Cube
Rating: PG-13

• • • • •

The only thing that worked in

the first "Ride Along" was the chemistry between Kevin Hart and Ice Cube. Hart launched into spastic, motormouth fits; Cube was a granite rock, standing there contemptuously. It's a simple duo setup, but it also worked, and it was

enough to justify a lazy comedy destined for an afterlife permanently filling out TNT's Sunday lineup.

One could almost say the same about its inevitable sequel, which is even lazier. But something else has changed. The first one played like a comedic version of "Training Day," with Cube's super-detective James dragging around his future brother-in-law — Hart's excitable weakling Ben — on a particularly hairy day on the job. The plot here — some business with an evil businessman played hammily by Benjamin Bratt — is more like a grade-Z potboiler with jokes slipped in. Olivia Munn swings by as a local detective and isn't asked to make a single joke.

But "Ride Along 2" doesn't forget its secret

weapon: the rapport between its two stars. What they come up with is never gold; there's not a single memorable moment in the film, no matter how many times Cube snarls or Hart volunteers himself for verbal and especially physical abuse from Cube, from Munn, from ringers like Ken Jeong and Sherri Shepherd, from a ceiling fan, from a boat, ad nauseam.

Still, Hart and Cube have a bizarre kind of repartee: the type that's pleasant even when what they're saying or doing isn't particularly inspired. That might not make sense, but certain films can chug along on the charm of its performers, who might periodically make one forget that a film like "Ride Along 2" isn't just lazy but actively bland. MATT PRIGGE

'Moonwalkers'

Director: Antoine Bardou-Jacquet
Stars: Rupert Grint, Ron Perlman
Rating: R

• • • • •

Basic question: Do you find the idea of Cro-Magnon bruiser Ron Perlman ("Hellboy," etc.) beating up hippies entertaining? How about a film that also plays with the almost certainly b.s. conspiracy theory that the moon landing was faked? Behold "Moonwalkers," a film of very simple pleasures that just settles for being good enough.

Perlman plays ex-special forces agent Kidman, who returns from 'Nam with a nasty case of PTSD and a new task:

find Stanley Kubrick and have him film an ersatz version of the Apollo 11 mission, on the off chance that Buzz Aldrin and team can't pull it off. Instead, he winds up in a druggie mansion with a never-was rock manager (Rupert Grint), trying to make the film amongst a sea of orgy revelers.

"Moonwalkers" gives you what you came for, including easy jokes about the coming computer revolution — plus less defensible gags about lecherous gays. The best joke — or the second, after a scene where a druggie painted blue rolls up to Perlman and gets dropped like a bag of cement — posits that the moon landing really does look like an avant-garde film, and the lulling, stumbling moonwalk really does look like



Dig "Hellboy's" Ron Perlman in a frilly hippie shirt, with Rupert Grint, in "Moonwalkers." ALCHEMY

dudes smacked out on some fantastic shrooms. It's all easy, right down to a beatdown set to the same Rossini piece used in "A Clockwork Orange." But easy isn't bad,

especially when it has Grint once again stretching his face into freaked-out contortions or the no-nonsense Perlman discovering the pleasures of a spacey acid trip. MP

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Ben McAdoo was promoted from Giants offensive coordinator to head coach this week. GETTY IMAGES

McAdoo hire should please Eli and Odell

The Giants officially promoted OC Ben McAdoo to head coach Thursday.

TONY WILLIAMS
@TBone8
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Leave it to the moribund Cleveland Browns to set the pace and start the head-coaching domino effect.

Once the ill-fated franchise hired former Bengals offensive coordinator Hue Jackson as its next head coach, the Giants lost another strong contender to be Tom Coughlin's successor. And with reports surfacing that the Philadelphia Eagles were very interested in hiring Ben McAdoo, 38, as their next head coach, Big Blue had to act fast to retain — and promote — their offensive coordinator.

Jackson was reportedly scheduled to interview for the Giants spot this week, which meant that when Cleveland scooped him up, and Philadelphia showed its hand, McAdoo was the guy Big Blue had to have.

Many within the organization had always thought the hiring of McAdoo two years ago was the greasing of the skid for eventually making him Coughlin's successor. Thanks to back-to-back 6-10 seasons, the process was expedited, culminating with Coughlin "stepping down" from his post.

McAdoo's hiring will be a popular one for at least two Giants — quarterback Eli Manning and wideout Odell Beckham Jr., as the duo has risen to prominence under McAdoo's tutelage over the last two years. Besides Pittsburgh's dynamic duo of Ben Roethlisberger and Antonio Brown, there might not have been a better 1-2 combo in the NFL than Manning to Beckham.

When Big Blue's potent battery publicly came out to support McAdoo as a viable candidate, it effectively sealed the deal. Beckham has had the greatest start of any wideout in his first two seasons, while Manning has enjoyed the best two-year stint of his career as well. Despite the successive 6-10 seasons, the duo cannot be at fault. Manning's 2015 season was his best, as he com-

"He's definitely ready and deserving. ... Ben has a tremendous work ethic."

Packers head coach and former Ben McAdoo mentor Mike McCarthy, to ESPN

pleted 62 percent of his passes for 4,432 yards, 35 touchdown passes and 14 interceptions.

McAdoo not only had his fingerprints all over that duo's success, but on the offense as a whole, as Big Blue ranked eighth offensively in the league in total offense. It's still uncertain who McAdoo would hire to man his former position, but there are murmurs that he may kick the tires on former Miami Dolphins' head coach Joe Philbin. The two have a working history together, dating back to their days in Green Bay under current head coach Mike McCarthy. Philbin was the team's offensive coordinator, while McAdoo was the quarterbacks coach in 2012 and 2013, and the tight ends coach prior to that in 2006. If Philbin is brought aboard, it plays into the Giants' desire for continuity — specifically on offense. Philbin

obviously knows the offense, as he tutored both Aaron Rodgers in Green Bay and Ryan Tannehill in Miami. He shouldn't have any problem meshing with Manning.

The offense was never the problem for the Giants, though, which means the franchise's brass is banking on the chance that their neophyte coach can also inspire a defense that's been among the league's dregs. New York ranked 30th this past season in yards allowed per game. It's unknown if McAdoo will retain defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, who also interviewed for the Giants' head coaching position.

Somewhere, those tears for Coughlin that Manning shed at the stepping down press conference have now dried and a tiny smile is likely creasing the franchise's signal caller's face.

Divisional round best bets, odds

Metro analyzes the four NFL playoff games taking place this weekend and tells you who to put your money on.

Saturday

Chiefs at Patriots (-5)

The Chiefs' solid-but-not-spectacular offensive attack will be tested by the Patriots' ninth-rated defense and Alex Smith's top target, Jeremy Maclin, is nursing a high-ankle sprain — so his contributions could be limited. If the Chiefs fail to get their running game going, they could be in big trouble. Kansas City's defense is ranked seventh, but they'll have a hard time containing a Patriots offense that features a healthy Rob Gronkowski and Julian Edelman. The pick: Patriots -5

to keep Palmer standing in the pocket. That will give Arizona's offense plenty of opportunities to exploit Green Bay's mediocre defense. The Cardinals should cover fairly easily. The pick: Cardinals -7

Sunday

Seahawks at Panthers (-3)

Both clubs boast a top-10 defense that is capable of forcing turnovers but Carolina is much more careful with the football on offense, as evidenced by its league-best plus-20 turnover ratio. Getting Jonathan Stewart back will be a boost for the Panthers' terrific rush attack, which has helped move the chains for Carolina all season. The pick: Panthers -3

Steelers at Broncos (-7)

Denver should have trouble moving the football as the rapidly aging Peyton Manning, who's had a penchant for early postseason exits, will be under center. Manning threw 17 interceptions in just 10 games this season and the Steelers' defense, though it gives up more than its fair share of yards, has picked off quarterbacks 17 times this season. And the Broncos' mediocre running attack will be hard-pressed to establish itself against the NFL's fifth-ranked run prevention squad. The pick: Steelers +7

ROBERT CRISCOLA



DeMarius Thomas and the Broncos are seven-point favorites. GETTY IMAGES



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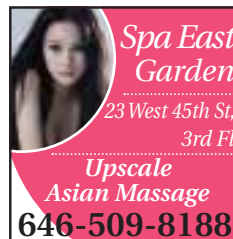


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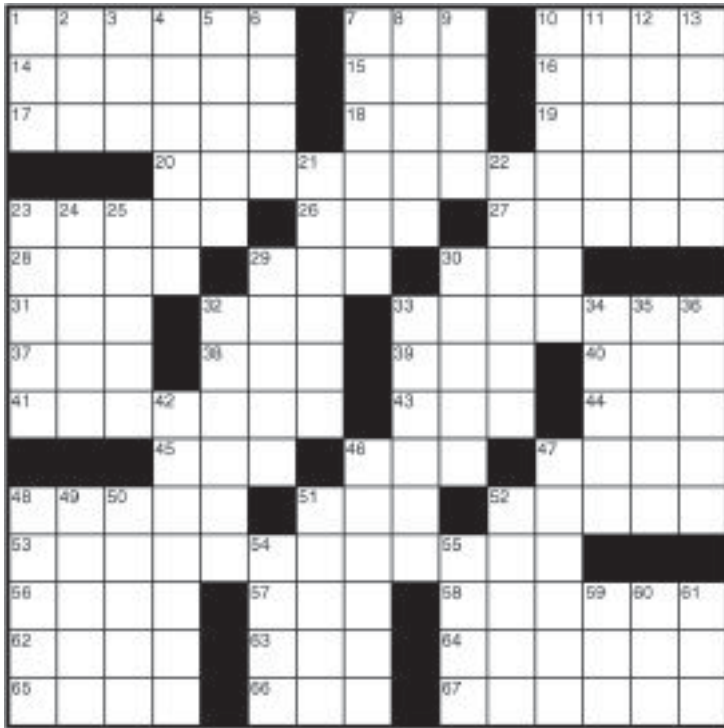
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19 Graph starter
20 Trunk contents (2 wds.)
23 Chain mail
26 Ego companions
27 Forest clearing
28 Hecklers' chorus
29 Lama's chants
30 Prior to
31 Alt.
32 Rose fruit
33 Beyond rad
37 Garçon's yes
38 Plumbing bend
39 Peace gesture
40 Trim a doily
41 Sports "zebra"
43 W-2 collectors
44 Play about Capote
45 Breathing fire
46 — -relief
47 Funny Foxx
48 Autumn month in Chile
51 Put chips on the roulette table
52 Hawk's lair

- 5 Happen
6 Beg pardon!
7 Two-footed ones
8 Fragrances
9 Secular
10 Pony pads
11 Zahn or Abdul
12 Took steps
13 Bronco snagger
21 Skin flaw
22 Thinks the same
23 Find repugnant
24 Elephant gone amok
25 Theme
29 Greasy
30 Big pitchers
32 Newspaper name
33 Do the Wright thing
34 Web-toed mammal
35 — Gras
36 Chopin piece
42 Well-known
46 Gazed upon
47 Quit
48 Map collection
49 Passport requirement
50 More boorish
51 Gray matter
52 Proverb
54 — Stanley Gardner
55 Vigoda et al
59 Illuminated
60 Always, to Byron
61 Kind of humor

- 53 Cumulonimbus
56 Forty-niner's hope
57 — Dawn Chong
58 Used a parachute
62 — — foot pole
63 Rapper — Wayne
64 Richer, as batter
65 Do post office work
66 Come to a halt
67 Guard

Down

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easy

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hard

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Aries Keep a low profile. The less said, the easier it will be to fix whatever problems arise. Don't let your emotions get the better of you. Focus on personal change.



Taurus Share your thoughts and collaborate with people who are as engaging and forward-thinking as you are. An offer will tempt you, but look at the fine print before you accept it.



Gemini Don't be taken advantage of by someone else. If someone is asking too much of you, back away. Plan to make personal changes that will help improve your emotional well-being.



Cancer Don't let unexpected changes spoil your day or plans. If you stick with like-minded people and maintain your focus, you will reach your goals.



Leo Speak from the heart and share your plans. Someone will be eager to help you if you offer a little incentive. Romance is on the rise and a celebration is favored.



Virgo Find out what life has to offer. You will have more fun mingling with people who share your interests rather than sitting at home with those who don't.



Libra Get out and discover what's going on in your community. Participating in events that are enlightening will change the way you handle people who are giving you a hard time.



Scorpio Engage in talks with people who have a different perspective or philosophy in order to find some sensible ideas to incorporate into your own life.



Sagittarius Stick close to home and nurture the relationships that are most important to you. A joint effort can turn your environment into a place of comfort and joy.



Capricorn Relax and enjoy what you have worked so hard to acquire. Don't let anyone guilt you into donating to something that isn't your problem or concern.



Aquarius If you try your best, success will find you. Love is on the rise, and mixing business with pleasure is favored. Generosity will result in positive change.



Pisces Speak up in order to grab the attention of someone who can offer practical solutions. Avoid taking on too much or making promises you cannot keep. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers

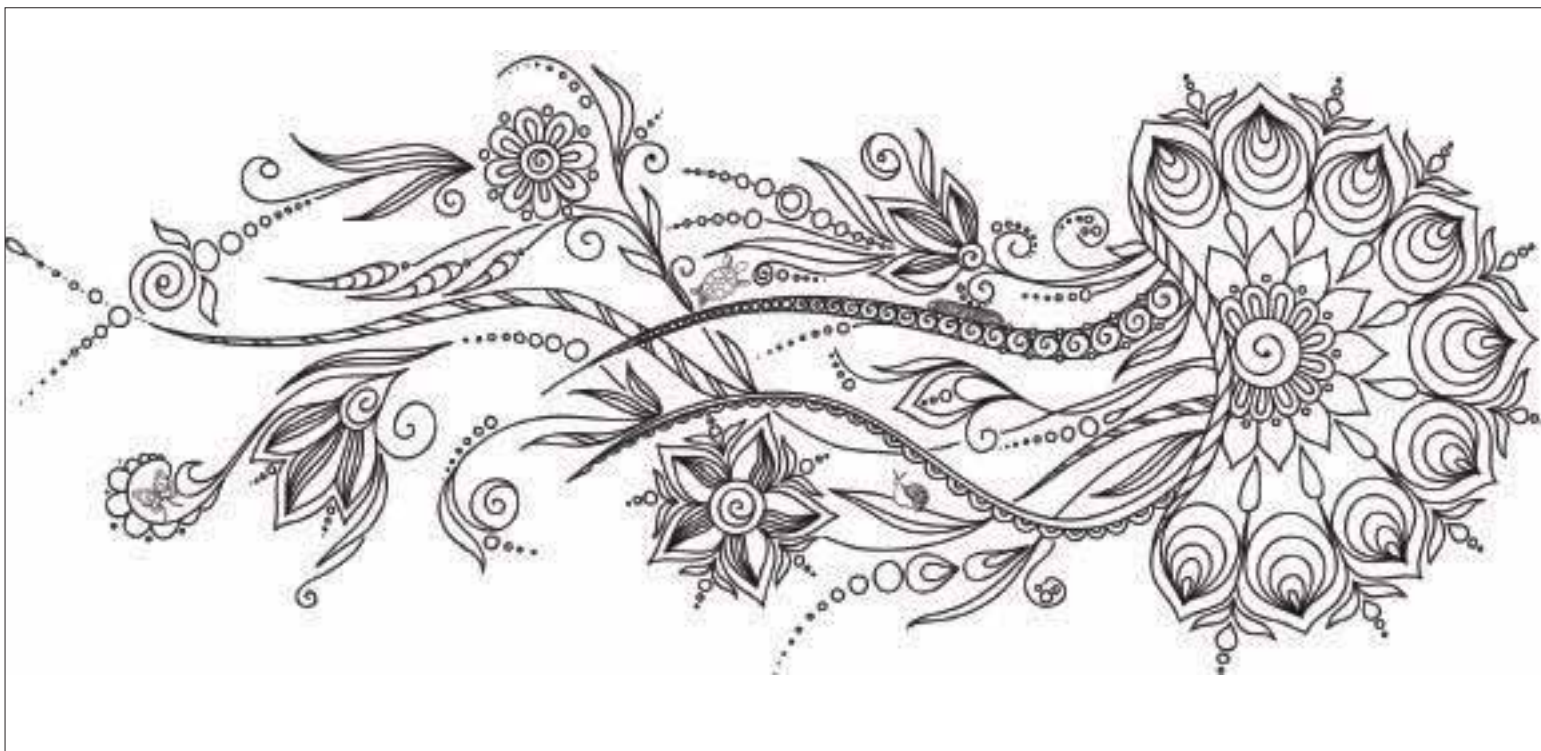
LOWER	EAST	WARM
OHARA	SLUR	ODIE
CIGAR	PASO	LULL
HOSTED	SHUFFLED	
BID	INLETS	
OLDTIME	CID	
PAINT	ASSET	KGB
ACCT	OLIOS	OAHU
LEE	GUSTO	EARED
PAT	TACKLED	
MOUSSE	YDS	
MARCHING	STODGY	
ISAK	ZOLA	ATRIA
SATE	EKED	STALK
TIER	DIEZ	YOWLS

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